(Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 since 15.12.1998 and 01.09.2001 respectively.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The jute growers have not suffered due to import of raw jute and jute products, as the import of raw jute is mainly of higher grade, which is not available in the country. This high grade raw jute is used by and large by the jute mills for manufacturing value added diversified jute products. In order to regulate imports, Government has issued a Notification making it compulsory for all importers to ensure marking of every imported jute bag with the country of origin.

Statement

Import of Raw Jute and Jute Products and their value by India

Qty: In Tons
Value: Rs. in crores

Year	Raw Jute	Value	Jute Products	Value	Total Import	Total Value
1998-99	9,061	8.15	1,215	1.94	10,276	10.09
1999-2000	140,837	143.80	21,178	36.88	162,015	180.68
2000-01	49,045	58.45	53,678	94.12	102,724	152.57
2001-02 (April' 01-Oct' 01)	25,792	31.32	22,283	42.64	48,075	73.96

Enhancing Textiles Quota with the US

1190. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken up the issue of enhancing textiles quota with the US;

(b) if so, the quota limit at present;

(c) what is Government's estimate about the proposed enhanced quota; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Government has been raising the issue of meaningful integration, including enhanced quota, under WTO agreement on Textile and Clothing at various fora.

The quota limits of all restraining countries, including US, are getting increased progressively from year to year on the basis of enhanced positive growth rates envisaged under WTO agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

Setting up crisis cell to tackle export problem of textile industry

1191. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a crisis cell has been set up to tackle export problems of textile industry effected by the recent terrorist attacks in the US; and

(b) if so, the measures suggested by them to check the declining trend in textile exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) In the context of export slowdown and to address the field level operational problems and the problems related to policy interpretation, in a time bound manner, a Crisis Watch Group on Textile Exports has been set up. The first meeting of the Group was held on 21.11.2001, wherein the representatives of various Textile Export Promotion Councils agreed to furnish such problems on a regular basis for resolution with concerned agencies through the mechanism of the Crisis Watch Group.